

## Message Text

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40

ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /071 W  
----- 078617

R 171407Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1064

USINT CAIRO EGYPT

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0082

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, PINT, BA, EG

SUBJECT : NEW BAHRAINI AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO

1. GOB EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE IN NEXT FEW DAYS APPOINTMENT OF ABDUL AZIZ SHEMLAN AS AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO.

2. SHEMLAN WAS CONSIDERED UNDISPUTED NATIONALIST LEADER OF BAHRAIN UNTIL HIS SENTENCE TO JAIL BY BRITISH IN 1956. AFTER RELEASE HE LIVED IN EXILE IN BEIRUT AND DAMASCUS UNTIL BAHRAIN'S INDEPENDENCE IN 1971. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN "BROUGHT OFF" BY THE GOVERNMENT. HE WAS APPOINTED TO BAHRAIN'S CONSTITUENT COUNCIL AND RAN FOR THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN DECEMBER 1973, BUT WAS DEFEATED.

3. SHEMLAN, NOW IN HIS SIXTIES, IS SOCIABLE AND SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ONCE THE GRAND OLD MAN OF BAHRAINI NATIONALISM, SHEMLAN HAS BEEN LEFT BEHIND BY EVENTS AND THE YOUNGER GROUP REPRESENTED IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO HAVE HIM IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY; WHERE HIS CREDENTIALS AS A NATIONALIST WOULD SHOW THE ELECTIONS AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS TRULY REPRESENTATIVE. HE WAS, HOWEVER, DEFEATED BY TWO  
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YOUNG PEOPLE'S BLOC MEMBERS. HIS APPOINTMENT TO CAIRO IS VIEWED AS

AN ATTEMPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP HIM AWAY FROM BAHRAIN WHILE  
MAINTAINING HIS IMAGE AS A FORMER DISSIDENT NOW TURNED MEMBER OF THE  
ESTABLISHMENT.  
KILLGORE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974MANAMA00082  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MANAMA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <29 NOV 2002 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** : NEW BAHRAIN AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, BA, EG, (SHEMLAN, ABDUL AZIZ)  
**To:** STATE CAIRO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005